GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5054
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2003
EXPORT OF FISH PRODUCTS
P. RAJENDRAN;PRABODH PANDA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the average annual export of fish products from the country;

(b) the total quantity of various fish products exported from India to various countries during the last three years upto March 31, 2003 and the total foreign exchange earnings therefrom, variety-wise and year-wise;

(c) the target fixed for 2003-04;

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to boost the export of fish products;

(e) whether the rate of rejection of Indian fish products is higher in the world;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps being taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) The average annual export of fish products from the country is around 4.25 lakh tonnes.

(b) The major country-wise and major variety-wise export of marine products during 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 (upto January 2003), as provided by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), are as follows:-

(i) Major country-wise exports of marine products

Quantity in Tonnes ; Value in Million US Dollars

Country	2000-2001 (April`02 - Jan`03)		2001-2002		2002-2003	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
USA	41747	255.93	49041	299.05	48236	328.80
Japan	68983	562.75	64905	383.07	43293	273.40
European Union	68827	225.37	82895	241.97	72446	217.35
China & Hong Kong	182771	181.86	134767	125.66	146944	156.73
South East Asia	40748	101.76	52424	113.35	34361	105.89
Middle East	17236	41.39	19159	38.10	14880	31.61
Others	20161	47.26	21279	52.15	15489	87.37
Total	440473	1416.32	424470	1253.35	375649	1201.15

(ii) Major variety-wise exports of marine products

Quantity in Tonnes ; Value in Million US Dollars

Item	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003 (April`02 - Jan`03)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Frozen Shrimp	111874	985.00	127709	871.03	107032	763.17
Frozen Fish	212903	192.25	174976	150.04	166074	178.93
Frozen Cattle Fish	33677	63.52	30568	58.93	35936	74.24
Frozen Squid	37628	71.31	39790	69.36	25835	53.59
Others	44391	104.24	51427	103.99	40772	131.22
Total	440473	1416.32	424470	1253.35	375649	1201.15

(c) The target for export of marine products for 2003-04 has not yet been fixed.

(d) In order to increase the exports of marine products, Government have been taking several steps, which include schemes for extending financial assistance to the seafood processing industry; steps to upgrade processing facilities to meet international standards of hygiene and quality; expansion of aquaculture; imparting training to aquaculture farmers to adopt sound management practices to prevent outbreak of diseases; assistance to produce value-added products for export; participation by MPEDA in international fairs, conducting overseas market surveys; etc.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Government have taken a number of steps to eliminate the incidence of rejection of consignments of fish & fishery products on account of microbiological & chemical contamination, which include, laying down the essential requirements for hygienic handling of seafood at all stages of production, storage and transport to ensure effective compliance of the quality standards; prescribing the maximum permissible level of chemicals and heavy metals; monitoring by the MPEDA and the Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) of the processing units to ensure that required standards are followed; campaign by MPEDA and other Government agencies in all seafood producing areas to bring quality awareness among the exporters, processors, farmers, feed manufacturers, hatchery owners, etc. and to dissuade them not to use the banned chemicals at any stage; setting up/upgradation of laboratories for the purpose of testing of seafood at major production centers and improvement/modernization of fish landing centres and fishing harbours.